



Master Chief Petty Officer Brett VerHulst **Command Master Chief, 17th Coast Guard District**



Master Chief Brett VerHulst assumed the duties as Command Master Chief, District 17 in June 2015. His primary responsibility is to advise Rear Admiral Dan Abel, the Commander of the Seventeenth Coast Guard District, on issues and initiatives pertaining to all Coast Guard members and their families.

The Seventeenth District encompasses over 3.8 million square miles and more than 44,000 miles of shoreline and serves and safeguards the public, protects the environment and its resources, and defends the Nation's interests in the Alaskan maritime region. Most recently Master Chief VerHulst served as Command Master Chief for Coast Guard Sector Columbia River, headquartered in Warrenton, OR.

Master Chief VerHulst has served in afloat assignments aboard Coast Guard Cutter (CGC) BITTERSWEET in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, and as a Quartermaster aboard CGC WOODRUSH in Sitka, AK and CGC SPENCER in Boston, MA.

Master Chief VerHulst has also served at various shore assignments including watch supervisor at Vessel Traffic Service Berwick Bay located in Morgan City, Louisiana; as a Search and Rescue Controller at Group Humboldt Bay in Eureka, CA and as the Maritime Domain Awareness/Collaboration Tools Subject Matter Expert at the Atlantic Area C4IT Branch in Portsmouth, VA.

Master Chief VerHulst is a proud graduate of the Coast Guard Chief Petty Officers Academy (Class 120) and the Coast Guard Senior Enlisted Leadership Course in addition to the Air Force Senior NCO Academy (Class 08C). He also has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Behavioral Sciences from Western International University.

Master Chief VerHulst's personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Coast Guard Commendation Medal, five Coast Guard Achievement Medals (with Operational Distinguishing device) and the Commandant's Letter of Commendation (with Operational Distinguishing device).